

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

The specification and claims have been amended as supported by the specification and claims as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1, 2 and 5-12, 15-21 will now be active in this application.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The rejections of the claims over JP 06207079 and Hintze-Bruning (US 5,817,370) and Usui (US6,800,688) are traversed.

The present invention as set forth in amended Claim 1 relates to a modified polyolefin resin produced by

subjecting a polyolefin resin (A) to a graft modification by vinyl monomer(s) (B) comprising **4-t-butylcyclohexyl acrylate**;

wherein the vinyl monomer(s) (B) comprises no unsaturated carboxylic acid or its anhydride.

JP 06207079 (JP'079) discloses **4-t-butylcyclohexylmethacrylate** as a methacrylic ester. In addition, JP' 079 also discloses that methacrylic ester is polymerized in the presence of a rubber polymer (olefin rubber). However, JP '079 does not disclose 4-t-butylcyclohexylacrylate.

In contrast, the present invention relates to a modified polyolefin resin produced by graft modifying the vinyl monomer (B) comprising **4-t-butylcyclohexylacrylate** in the presence of the polyolefin resin (A).

In addition, the Examples in the present invention show that **4-t-butylcyclohexyl acrylate is superior compared to 4-t-butylcyclohexyl methacrylate**, for example in terms of adhesion peel strength.

As shown in the specification of the present invention, Table 1 (at page 36 of the specification), the modified polyolefin resin which is produced by using 4-t-butylcyclohexylacrylate (Example 2) has superior properties to those of the modified polyolefin resin which is produced by using 4-t-butylcyclohexylmethacrylate (Example 5). For example, the adhesion peel strength of Example 2 is larger than that of Example 5.

Accordingly, the present invention is different from and not obvious over JP '079.

Hintze-Bruning discloses the use of 3 to 50 % by weight of an unsaturated carboxylic acid such as acrylic acid, methacrylic acid or mixtures thereof. See col. 1, lines 40-42, component (a1). 3 to 50 % by weight of an unsaturated carboxylic acid MUST be present in the binder of Hintze-Bruning. In contrast, **the present invention explicitly excludes the use of unsaturated carboxylic acid or its anhydride**. There is no suggestion or motivation in Hintze-Bruning to exclude the use of unsaturated carboxylic acid.

Usui (US 6,800,688) fails to disclose or suggest the use of **4-t-butylcyclohexyl acrylate**.

Applicants previously distinguished from Usui by claiming that monomer (B) comprises no unsaturated carboxylic acid or its anhydride. As a result the rejection over Usui was withdrawn. Usui also fails to disclose or suggest the use of **4-t-butylcyclohexyl acrylate**.

Thus, Hintze-Bruning (US 5,817,370), and Usui (US 6,800,688) do not cure the defects of JP 06207079.

Thus, the rejections of the claims over JP 06207079 and Hintze-Bruning (US 5,817,370) and Usui (US6,800,688) should be withdrawn.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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